

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/699,496

Examiner

Marc Jimenez

Applicant(s)

WORRELL, JAMES L.

Art Unit

3726

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 8/9/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 31 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Marc Jimenez
AU 3726
9/23/04

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffrey L. Clark on 9/23/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of making a knob [by] comprising the steps of:

(a) molding a polymeric material to provide a polymeric body, which has a boss having an end face and having [a recessed] an external wall extending between the end face and a recessed floor,

(b) stamping and drawing a metal sheet or a metal strip to provide a metal cup, which is adapted to fit over the boss, with a circular plate adapted to cover the end face of the boss when the metal cup fits over the boss, and a skirt adapted to encompass the external wall of the boss when the metal cup fits over the boss, the skirt being unitary with the circular plate, and

(c) fitting the metal cup over the boss so that the plate covers the end face of the boss, and so that the skirt encompasses the external wall of the boss and defines the outer face of said knob between said circular plate and said floor, and securing the metal cup to the polymeric body.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): In line 1, - - , - - has been inserted after "claim 1".

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): In line 1, - - , - - has been inserted after "claim 2".

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): In line 1, - - , - - has been inserted after "claim 2".

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): In line 1, - - , - - has been inserted after "claim 2".

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): In line 1, - - , - - has been inserted after "claim 1".

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): In line 1, - - , - - has been inserted after "claim 6".

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): In line 1, - - , - - has been inserted after "claim 6".

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): In line 1, - - , - - has been inserted after "claim 6".

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): In line 1, - - , - - has been inserted after "through 9".

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not teach or suggest a method of making a knob including molding a

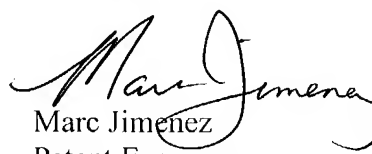
Art Unit: 3726

polymeric material to provide a polymeric body having a boss with an end face (24) and having an external wall (26) extending between the end face (24) and a recessed floor (32), fitting a stamped and drawn metal cup (42) over the boss so that the plate covers and end face of the central boss and so that the skirt of the metal cup encompasses the external wall of the boss and defines the outer face of the knob between the circular plate and the floor, in combination with all of the other claim limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc Jimenez whose telephone number is (703) 306-5965. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 5:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (703) 308-1789. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.


Marc Jimenez
Patent Examiner
AU 3726

MJ
September 23, 2004